

WOODLEY'S LATE GOALS GIVE CITY REVENGE

By PETER STURGES

WYCOMBE WAND. ... 2 : OXFORD CITY ... 4

OXFORD City avenged their home defeat by Wycombe Wanderers when they won an exciting Isthmian League game at Loakes Park. City twice took the lead but made certain of victory only when Woodley scored twice in the last five minutes.

Wycombe: Syrett; Beck, Pullin, Maharg, Lewis, Gale; Samuels, Horseman, Lowen, Balson, Hodges

Oxford City: Maskell; Jackson, Rumble; Goodison, Rundle, Buswell; Harris, Woodley, Morton, Bradbury, Gardiner.

Referee: R. W. Burville (London).

A miskick by Buswell let Wycombe through but Goodison ended this threat.

City, more venturesome than usual, soon had the Wanderers on the defensive as Harris rounded off a good move on the right.

Wycombe were more direct but City had just as much of the play early on. After a good run in which he beat four men a drive by Goodison flashed wide.

City's approach work was more subtle than the Wanderers who conceded a penalty in the 10th minute when Maharg handled when Woodley looked dangerous.

JACKSON put City ahead with a penalty kick to Syrett's right.

A fine drive by Hodges curled wide as Wycombe fought back, but City, battling up the slope, began to gain control in midfield.

A lively, interesting game developed, despite the mud.

Dealt quickly

When the home forwards moved towards goal City's defence quickly dealt with the situation. Although Maskell was frequently in action he was never really put to test.

Much was seen of the City's attack and Morton, deputising for the injured Howlett, shaped promisingly, getting through a lot of work.

Wycombe, without star winger Worley and centre-half Roystone, improved towards the interval, but City continued to look the better balanced team.

Lowen slipped in the mud to waste a good pass. Four minutes later he was just wide of the mark with a hard drive.

Goodison put in another fine run weaving past four defenders and drawing Syrett out of goal, but he slipped in the goalmouth and his shot spun wide.

Snatched header

Horseman worked the ball through to Lowen, but Maskell snatched the centre forward's header.

Then Horseman took advantage of a rare mistake by Jackson, but Rumble cleared as the ball came across.

Harris, Woodley and Morton figured in a good attack by City, which ended with Syrett stopping a drive from Bradbury.

Half-time: Wycombe Wanderers 0, Oxford City 1.

The second half was a minute old when a snap shot from SAMUELS levelled the scores. Maskell made no attempt to cover the ball as it came in from the right.

City hit back immediately and both Woodley and Harris were unlucky.

Syrett had a busy time in the home goal as City mounted attack after attack.

He had no chance, however, when MORTON scooped the ball into the top right-hand corner of the net after meeting a well-judged pass from Woodley in the 58th minute.

Second equaliser

But two minutes later Wycombe were level again. LOWEN tapped the ball over the line to make sure of the goal when Balson headed over the defence from Samuels cross.

A header by Bradbury, after Harris's corner, beat Syrett, but the ball stuck in the muddy goalmouth and was scrambled clear.

A drive by Horseman hit the City's crossbar and lively exchanges followed as the teams struggled for a decider.

Five minutes from the end

City went ahead again. Goodison lobbed the ball into the home goalmouth and WOODLEY beat Pullin as they both went for the ball.

With 30 seconds to go, WOODLEY scored again after a corner.

RESULT:

WYCOMBE WAND. 2
OXFORD CITY 4

WYCOMBE PAY FOR LAPSES

Wycombe W. 2 Oxford C. 4

TWO goals in the last five minutes by inside right John Woodley gave City revenge for a recent home defeat by Wycombe — and ended the Wanderers' five-week unbeaten run in the Isthmian League.

All the Oxford goals came from lapses in Wycombe's defence. Apart from right-back John Beck deputising as captain for the injured Roystone, the home back never looked happy against the lively Oxford forwards.

Territorially there was little in it. More accurate in their passing Oxford were well served by their busy right half Goodison and by right winger Bernard Harris and they were twice in the lead.

But only a penalty converted by Jackson after 10 minutes gave them an interval advantage.

Hodges and Horseman were the stars of a Wycombe second-half revival, but after reserve right winger Samuels equalised, Steve Morton, deputising for the injured Howlett at centre, restored Oxford's lead, only for Lowen to level the scores two minutes later.

Wycombe had slightly the better of an exciting struggle in the last half-hour, but their defence faltered again and Woodley put Oxford ahead five minutes before the end and added another with the last kick of the game.